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ROMULO TO SEEK LIBERAL PARTY NOMINATION
FOR PHILIPPINE PRESIDENCY

Carlos Romulo has resigned from his post as Philippine Ambassador to the United States and as delegate to the UN in order to seek the Liberal Party nomination for president in the November elections, according to a press report.

Comment: Since Romulo's recent return to the Philippines, a strong movement has developed within the Liberal Party to nominate Romulo for the presidency and to persuade President Quirino to withdraw as a candidate. Quirino and Romulo have held a series of conferences after which Quirino has continually denied that he would withdraw in favor of Romulo at the Party's convention, scheduled for 23 May.

It is believed that Romulo could win the nomination in an open convention, but a number of influential delegates are publicly committed to support Quirino, such as House Speaker Perez who controls large blocks of delegates and of voters. Quirino is likely to withdraw only if convinced that his re-election is impossible.

Romulo would probably be a stronger opponent for Nacionalista candidate Magsaysay but his chances of victory would not be good. His candidacy, however, might greatly improve the chances for free elections and contribute to a stabilization of the Philippine political situation.

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